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State Department review completed

6 March 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

1. At about 5:15 this evening, I returned an earlier call from Alexis Johnson. He said he was worried and needed advice on a security matter and referred to a memo written by McGeorge Bundy addressed to SecState, SecDef, DCI and Administrator, FAA, dated 27 February [redacted]. This had been a covering memo for the proposed public statement on surfacing the A-11 and some questions and answers for use by Mr. Salinger in the event the President released the information. It had been distributed prior to the 29 February NSC Meeting. Johnson said he had brought the paper back from the meeting and had given the covering memo to the boys in his Secretariat and told them he was finished with it. Being a [redacted] paper, it should not have been given to the Secretariat, and somehow it was distributed through State's TS channels to some of the personnel on the TS lists. He said it contained the code word and also some implication that CIA had something to do with it.

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2. I had the paper in front of me, read it, and informed Secretary Johnson it didn't worry me, but that I would get our security people to take a look at it. He assured me the paper had remained in security channels--the TS channels.

3. He also mentioned that the agenda for the meeting, which Secretary Rusk had brought back with him from the meeting, had got in the Secretary's outbox. He said the only thing it contained was the code name at the bottom of the page.

4. I told him again I was not worried about it, but that I would call him back and give him a final answer as to whether any follow-up action would be required.

5. After checking with Mr. Bannerman, I called Johnson back and told him it didn't excite us at all, but that quietly, on low key, Monday, our security people would go over to talk to Mr. Wm. M. Marvel, the State control officer on this, just to see the degree and the magnitude of the proliferation of this thing. Johnson said he was relieved.

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General Carter:

Will something like this do as an M/R
on your conversations with Alexis Johnson?

If so, do you wish copies to be sent anywhere?

Security
OSA

Classification? _____

SECRET

Lois